

# The State of Washington



## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, it is important for all residents of Washington State to feel and be safe; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the responsibility of every citizen to maintain the high quality of life enjoyed in this state; and

**WHEREAS**, adults who are vulnerable, because of age or disability, are at risk of abuse, neglect, abandonment, financial exploitation, and self-neglect; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2003, DSHS received more than 12,000 reports of alleged abuse, neglect, abandonment, financial exploitation or self-neglect of vulnerable adults, and the number of reports increase every year; and

**WHEREAS**, Washington State residents have a desire to protect and end harm to those who are more vulnerable; and

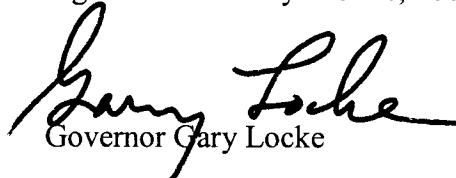
**WHEREAS**, citizens who suspect abuse, neglect, abandonment, financial exploitation or self-neglect of a vulnerable adult can call a toll-free number, **1-866-EndHarm** (1-866-363-4276) and be connected to a DSHS office to make their report;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Gary Locke, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim July 2004 as

### ***Adult Abuse Prevention Month***

in Washington State and I urge all citizens to use this valuable service to protect all of our citizens.

Signed this 30<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2004

  
Governor Gary Locke

